

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 04505 130830Z

20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W
----- 118305

R 130811Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO JOHN K. BRIGHT
INDEVCO II
7456 WEST 5TH AVE.
DENVER, COLORADO
TEL 303/232-0557
TELEX: 45-4370 INDEVCO DVR
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5223
USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 4505

FOR BRIGHT FROM ECON/CML OFF WRIGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BTIO, SY, US

SUBJ: LATAKIA UNIVERSITY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1. MICHAEL ZAZA, GEM. MGR., MIDDLE EAST INDUSTRIAL PLANNING CO. INFORMED ME NOV 12 THAT IN NOV 11 TELEPHONE CALL, ROGER HILL INFORMED HIM INDEVCO II DECIDED NOT TO TRY FOR LATAKIA UNIVERSITY CONTRACT BECAUSE OF TOO SHORT DEADLINE. ZAZA SAID HE EXPLAINED TO HILL THAT TELEX HILL RECEIVED FROM DR. AHMAD CHALLAL, ON BEHALF FUAD SALEM, CALLING FOR INDEVCO OFFER BY NOV 8 BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT DESIRE TO ANNOUNCE CONCLUSION OF PROJECT BY NOV 16, WAS INCOMPLETE IN THAT CHALLAL DID NOT WANT TO PUT MUCH DETAIL IN COMMERCIAL CABLE. MOREOVER, ZAZA SAYS HE HAS CONVINCED SYRIAN COMMITTEE THAT NOV 8 OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE, AND IT ALSO NOT POSSIBLE TO ANNOUNCE CONCLUSION OF CONTRACT NOV 16. ZAZA SAYS HE HAS COMMITTEE COMMITMENT TO WAIT UNTIL NOV 20 AND STRONGLY RECOMMENDS YOU COME OUT BEFORE THEN, SAY BY NOV 18 WITH WHATEVER MATERIAL YOUR GROUP HAS PREPARED. ZAZA SAYS COMMITTEE MUST RECEIVE SOME PROPOSAL MATERIAL FROM YOU, IF ONLY INCOMPLETE, IN ORDER TO CONTINUE PROGRESS MADE SO FAR TOWARD SUCCESSFUL
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CONCLUSION.

2. BOTH ZAZA AND I EXPECTED YOU BACK AROUND NOV 13 PER YOUR DEPARTURE CALLS TO US. HILL'S NOV 11 INFORMATION THEREFORE PUZZLING.

3. ZAZA ALSO ASKED ME TO INFORM YOU HE HAS OBTAINED TWO-MONTH EXTENSION ON TRIPLESUPERPHOSPHATE TENDER AND ALSO TWO-MONTH DELAY ON "SYRIAN ROAD STUDY". (HE DID NOT DEFINE FURTHER, BUT SOUNDS LIKE TRANSPORTATION STUDY.)

4. RE U.S. OIL CO. INTEREST IN SYRIA AND MY NOV 4 CABLE TO YOU, DEP MIN PETROLEUM NABULSI SAYS HE TELEXED YOU IMMEDIATELY. WE BOTH HOPE YOU CAN ENGENDER RESPONSES FROM U.S. FIRMS.

5. RE YOUR OCT 28 LTR, I HAVE PASSED TWO ENCLOSURES ON TO TRANSPORT MINISTER ZEIN AND HIGHLY REGARDED DIRECTOR, ROADS DEPT., MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, DR. ENG. SUHAIL SHEBAT. REGARDS. R.M. WRIGHT.
PELLETREAU

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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